up of posts, which have been identified as suitable for appointment of persons with disabilities, a certificate should be given to the recruiting agencies that the policy relating to 3% reservation for persons with disabilities has been taken care of Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has also addressed State Governments regarding recruitment of persons with disabilities in government jobs to the extent of 3% of identified posts.

(c) As per reports received from State Commissioners for Persons with Disabilities, a provision of minimum 3% reservation in employment for persons with disabilities has been made in 26 States/ Union Territories including Jharkhand.

New Guidelines to promote FDI

*349. SHRI DATTA MEGHE: Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently formulated some new guidelines with a view to promote FDI in various fields in the country;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have asked various Ministries to boost FDI on the basis of said guidelines; and

(d) if so, the progress achieved as a result thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (SHRI ARUN JAITLEY): (a) to (c) Government recognises Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) as a critical input for accelerated economic growth. The various steps taken to promote FDI include the following:-

(i) A liberal and transparent FDI policy. where

(a) there is no ceiling of foreign equity participation except for a few sectors where caps have been imposed on strategic and sectoral considerations.

(b) new sectors such as integrated township development (100%), insurance (26%), defence industry (26%), mass rapid transit system (100%), tea plantations (100% with 26% divestment condition), Print Media (26%), etc., have been opened to FDI.

(ii) *Investment Promotion Efforts:* The investment promotion

efforts are focused on dissemination of information on investment opportunities in India through road shows, investor meets, publications, etc. The Central Ministries and State Governments are actively involved in investment promotion efforts. Apart from this, investment advisory support is given through online chat facility and e-mail.

(iii) *Investment Facilitation:* The Government has recently embarked upon a six-point strategy to facilitate speedy implementation of FDI projects under the Foreign Investment Implementation Authority (FIIA) framework. This, *inter alia*, includes close interaction with foreign investors at both operational and corporate board level; follow-up with Administrative Ministries and State Governments concerned; involvement of missions abroad in promoting FDI and tracking FDI intends and sector specific approach in removing investment bottlenecks.

(d) FDI inflows have by and large registered a consistent growth since 1991. The policies and related measures, put in place have resulted in FDI inflows amounting to US$ 3.90 billion (excluding ADRs/GDRs and advances pending issue of shares) during the financial year 2001-02, as compared to US $ 2.34 billion in 2000-2001, registering a growth of 66%. This record increase in FDI inflows has taken place at a time when Global FDI flows have declined by over 40 percent in the year 2001.

Cases pending in M.P. High Court and its Benches

*350. SHRI KAILASH JOSHI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of cases pending in the Madhya Pradesh High Court, Jabalpur and its benches at Indore and Gwalior, Bench-wise;

(b) the number of vacancies of Judges in these benches till date and since how long these are lying vacant;